



GAU 3731

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. BSC-035CN
(1002/58)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Gellman et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/579,909 GROUP NO.: 3731
FILING DATE: May 26, 2000 EXAMINER: Not yet assigned
TITLE: Bone Anchors for Bone Anchor Implantation Device

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to as enclosed herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on December 6, 2000.


Carrie Lilley

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith are:

1. Transmittal form (1 page);
2. Preliminary Amendment (2 pages);
3. Certificate of First Class Mailing (1 pages);
4. Return receipt postcard.

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Serial Number	09/579,909
Filing Date	May 26, 2000
First Named Inventor	Gellman et al.
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket No.	BSC-035CN (1002/58)

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____] <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citation(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1553) <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers) <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (<i>Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (<i>please identify below</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Power of Attorney
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PATENT
Atty. Docket No. BSC-035CN (1002/58)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please enter this Preliminary Amendment and consider the accompanying remarks.

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 8, please add --
a' This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/238,663, filed January 26, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,096,041, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety-- after "reference."

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-9, without prejudice, and add claims 10-15.

sub B1
a2
--10. A bone anchor for use with a bone anchor implantation device comprising a generally cone-shaped head having a wide end, a narrow end, and at least two cutting edges wherein said cutting edges come together to form a pointed tip at the narrow end and the cutting edges of the head are defined by at least one curved surface.

11. The device of claim 10, wherein the head has three the cutting edges.

12. The device of claim 10, wherein the cutting edges comprise sharp edges.

13. The device of claim 10, wherein said bone anchor comprises titanium.

14. The device of claim 10, further comprising a collar member disposed near the wide end of the head.

sub B2
15. The device of claim 10, further comprising a shaft with an eyelet for receiving a suture, the shaft being coupled to the wide end of the head.--